

SACRE CONFERENCE



Sunday 10th May 2009 — 12pm to 4pm

The day will include **Kosher lunch, workshops, talks from Dr Sarah Smalley (Executive Support Officer, RE Council) on the review of Circular 1/94 and from Sandra Teacher (Education Officer, BoD) on the new "Learning Outside the Classroom" initiatives** and the opportunity for you to **share experiences** from your own SACREs.

Name _____

SACRE Representative of _____ LEA

Address _____

Contact No. _____

Email _____

ABLE TO ATTEND UNABLE TO ATTEND (please tick)

WILL YOU BE ATTENDING THE BUFFET LUNCH? YES NO

Ps. Please discuss with your SACRE the possibility of claiming expenses for your trip. (The Board will endeavour to reimburse reasonable travel expenses if these cannot be covered by your SACRE.)

Please return this page to Hannah Ashleigh at Board of Deputies, 6 Bloomsbury Square, London WC1A 2LP or on hannah.ashleigh@bod.org.uk

JEWISH SACRE NEWS

DATE FOR YOUR DIARY!!!

The Annual Jewish SACRE Conference will take place on:

Sunday 10th May 2009

12.00 am - 4.00pm

at the Board of Deputies of British Jews

6 Bloomsbury Square

London, WC1A 2LP

See back page for information and application form!



JWOLE CD-Rom launches as a massive success

In May 2008, our Jewish Way of Life CD-Rom launched at a highly successful event in London attended by over 100 people. The new resource for students and teachers, covering Jewish faith, practice and religion, is the first of its kind to be developed and distributed free-of-charge by a faith group to all schools across the UK. More than two years in the making, the Jewish Way of Life CD-ROM project was developed in partnership with the educational charity, World ORT and The Pears Foundation.

To date nearly 20,000 copies of the Jewish Way of Life CD-ROM have been distributed to schools in England. Most of these reached schools at the end of the Summer term 08 or at the beginning of the current Autumn term and requests are still coming in on a daily basis. Most importantly, the resource has received an extremely good reception from users, particularly from Local Authority RE Advisers, SACRE groups, Diocesan Offices and of course schools.



We are currently updating our records of Jewish SACRE representatives.

If you have not done so already, we would be grateful if you could provide us with all your contact details.

(especially email addresses if you have them!)

Please contact The Education Department at the Board.



Left to right: Minister of State for Schools and Learners Jim Knight, Professor Lord Winston, Executive Chair of The Pears Foundation Trevor Pears, Director of Curriculum DCSF Helen Williams, President of the Board of Deputies Henry Grunwald QC and World ORT head of Jewish education Judah Harstein,

Feedback on the CD-Rom

"This is the most generous of offerings to the RE community from a faith community that I can imagine, and the sheer quality and depth of the learning that can come from it is wonderful!"
Lat Blaylock, Editor RE Today

"Please pass on our congratulations to all those who have succeeded in producing such a valuable resource."
Bill Gent, School Improvement Service, Essex

"I was enormously impressed by its attractive, interesting, interactive design and by the challenges it poses to learners. This resource deserves to make it big. The CD-Rom will really align well with efforts to promote good quality learning experiences in RE."
Mark Chater, QCA



NEWS FROM PARLIAMENT...



Religious Education Council's statement on how RE fits into the Rose review of the Primary Curriculum

“As the Rose review is unlikely to lead to changes in primary legislation, Religious Education will remain a statutory subject for all pupils (unless withdrawn by their parents) and continue to be taught according to the locally agreed syllabus or governors' policy in a faith school.

The learning that takes place in RE in primary schools is essential to children's development, and the RE Council has been working with the Rose review to ensure that this learning retains its important place.

RE is a key contributor to human, social and environmental understanding. Primary schools should be encouraged to plan in ways that both maximise RE's unique contribution to this wider area whilst at the same time maintaining the coherence and integrity of the specific RE curriculum.

The RE Council will continue to work with the DCSF, QCA and OFSTED to ensure that learning in RE is fully recognised.”

My Experiences on the NASACRE Executive—Robin Kanarek

The work of NASACRE (National Association of Standing Advisory Councils on Religious Education) is challenging, increasingly complex but always exciting. NASACRE is the elected executive committee for all the SACREs with 4 executive officers, 8 members and up to 3 co-opted members. Its aims are to:

- assist SACREs to fulfil their responsibilities
- represent their common concerns to other bodies (DCFS,QCA, OFSTED,REC)
- assist in the training and mutual consultation of SACRE members
- encourage the development of SACREs
- undertake such other activities, appropriate to SACREs ,as may benefit RE and collective worship

Elections are held each year at the AGM to be held this year on Thursday 4 June at Birmingham Council House. Every SACRE can nominate a candidate(s) for election to NASACRE from any of its member groups. The variety of NASACRE members is determined by each SACRE voting on the day with a single vote per candidate.

The NASACRE executive is voluntary but its work is professional. Members meet 3-4 times a year but there is work to be done throughout the year in working parties and individually. Much of it is conducted through email as we represent a wide geographical spread of members. The executive officers and members are friendly, informed and deeply committed to the work of the SACREs and Religious Education /collective worship. NASACRE respects each Locally Agreed Syllabus, NSFRE guidance and the partnership between SACREs, teachers, advisers and schools. Our work within the wider community is vital and is recognised in OFSTED inspections as, 'social and community cohesion'.

There is growing recognition that changing curricula, methods of inspection and monitoring and the need for 'social and community cohesion' make RE central to children and families alike for a healthy society.

I urge you to attend the AGM, nominate a candidate and consider yourself as a potential NASACRE member. You will learn much; bring your own experience and expertise to a hard working, friendly committee. Here is an opportunity for your SACRE to nominate you.

Do phone me if you want to talk more about NASACRE and your place in it.

Robin Kanarek
NASACRE & Devon SACRE
01395 263667 / rkanarek@talktalk.net
(NB—see www.nasacre.org.uk for more info)

Help us fill the gaps!!

We continue to monitor where we are represented around the country and are frequently approached by SACREs who want help replacing a representative or finding one for the first time.



Currently we have vacancies on the following SACRES:

Bristol, Buckinghamshire, Calderdale, Derbyshire, Greenwich, Hartlepool, Havering, North Somerset & Richmond.

If you know of anyone with a good knowledge of Judaism and an understanding of the British education system who might be able to fill one of these places — please put them in touch with us!!

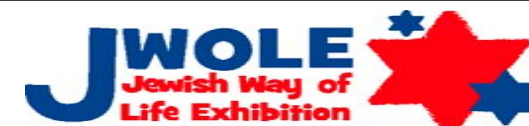
Ongoing projects at the Board.....

Seeing Jewish Life (SJL) Tours give pupils a chance to experience the vibrant Jewish way of life in its own environment. These trips are an excellent opportunity to witness the dynamics that exist within the contemporary Jewish community of London.

SJL tours can be tailor-made to meet the needs of the individual school. The tours may include: a tour of a reform or orthodox synagogue, meeting a Holocaust survivor, visiting Jewish shops and enjoying a kosher meal. Each group is accompanied by a Board of Deputies guide who will provide an insight into the Anglo-Jewish community.

SJL tours cost £15 per pupil, including kosher meal. If you would like to advertise the SJL tours within your LEA please contact the Education Department.

Tel: 020 7543 5400 **Email:** hannah.ashleigh@bod.org.uk **Website:** www.bod.org.uk



The Board of Deputies *Jewish Way Of Life Exhibition* (JWOLE) is designed to enable pupils, students and their teachers to gain a fresh insight into Judaism. It is suitable for all key stages but is especially designed for KS 2.

The exhibition includes illustrated panels on Shabbat, kashrut, Jewish festivals and rites of passage. It is an excellent opportunity for pupils to develop spiritually, morally, socially and culturally through the many discussions and workshop ideas that are generated by the display.

Recent venues have included Hackney, Guernsey, Dublin and JFS School. We are due to visit Bradford, Harrow, Norwich and Cornwall in this academic year.

The Education team from the Board of Deputies are undergoing a major redevelopment of JWOLE which so far has included designing a new section on Jewish Values.

Our current strategy is focussing on areas where there is little or no Jewish community. If your SACRE is interested in hosting JWOLE, please contact Hannah Ashleigh on 020 7543 5400 or hannah.ashleigh@bod.org.uk.

?? How can we help you ??

BoD are here to help you with any issues or concerns that may arise with regards to your SACRE or the teaching of Judaism in your area—please be in touch if we can assist you in any way.....Or just to let us know if something good happens!!

For further information on anything covered in this newsletter or about any of the Board's work, please contact Hannah Ashleigh at:

**The Board Of Deputies Of British Jews,
6 Bloomsbury Square, London WC1A 2LP.**

**Tel: 020 7543 5400 Fax: 020 7543 0010
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Website: www.bod.org.uk**

